

22 October 1969

MORNING MEETING ACTION ITEM

TO: All Executive Committee Members

Houston and Maury commented that they were at [ ] with the Midcareerists on Monday and found that many of them had not been adequately briefed on how to handle inquiries on the Green Beret affair as decided at the Morning Meeting on 3 October. They encouraged the DD/P and others to convey the guidance on this matter arrived at by the Director at the 3 October Meeting (attached).

25X1

SECRET

INQUIRIES ON GREEN BERET AFFAIR

Agency officers should refrain from volunteering comment on the Green Beret affair. For the information and guidance of Agency personnel who are interested and concerned, these are the essential facts in the case insofar as CIA is concerned.

1. CIA has no command relationship to or position of authority over the Green Berets;
2. Whatever transpired between the Green Berets and Chuyen was undertaken exclusively on the Green Berets' own authority and responsibility;
3. Chuyen was not at any time an agent of or otherwise connected with CIA;
4. As a matter of policy based on moral, legal, and professional grounds, CIA does not indulge in assassinations.
5. The Director did decline to permit Agency officers to testify at the trial because it appeared virtually certain that sensitive operations unrelated to the Chuyen case would be disclosed in the process.